

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication apparatus, comprising:
 - a first communication device that receives images and identification information of a camera owned by a user from the camera;
 - a displaying device that displays the images received from the camera by the first communication device and displays a service menu showing services offered by a service center for the user;
 - a selecting device that selects an image among the images displayed by the displaying device and selects a service among the services displayed by the displaying device; and
 - a second communication device that transmits the identification information, the image and information indicating the service to the service center through a network.

2. The communication apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein:
 - the first communication device automatically starts communicating with the camera when the user connects the camera with the first communication device; and
 - the second communication device starts communicating with the service center through the network as need arises.

3. A server, comprising:
 - a communication device that receives identification information of a camera owned by a user from the user;
 - a recording device that records the identification information and a service menu showing services to be offered to the user; and
 - a reading device that reads the service menu from the recording device according to the identification information;
 - wherein the communication device transmits the service menu to the user.

4. The server as defined in claim 3, further comprising:
 - a payment information recording device that records the identification information and a method of payment;
 - a payment method reading device that reads the method of payment from the payment

information recording device according to the identification information received; and
 a charge receiving device that receives a charge for a service in accordance with the method of payment read by the payment method reading device.

5. A server, comprising:

a communication device that receives identification information of a camera owned by a user from the user;

a recording device that records the identification information and user information on the user; and

a device that reads the user information from the recording device according to the identification information and transmits the user setting information to another communication apparatus.

6. The server as defined in claim 5, wherein the user information includes at least one of the following: a delivery address, a distribution destination of image or audio data, a financial source, a password, an address, a name, a gender, a birthday and an age.

7. The server as defined in claim 5, further comprising:

a payment information recording device that records the identification information and a method of payment;

a payment method reading device that reads the method of payment from the payment information recording device according to the identification information received; and

a charge receiving device that receives a charge for a service in accordance with the method of payment read by the payment method reading device.

8. A server, comprising:

a communication device that receives identification information of a camera owned by a user from the user;

a recording device that records the identification information and utility data showing services used by the user;

a reading device that reads the utility data from the recording device according to the identification information; and

a determining device that determines an order of services in a service menu to be offered to the user in accordance with the utility data;

wherein the communication device transmits the service menu showing the services in the order determined by the determining device.

9. A server, comprising:

a communication device that receives identification information of a camera owned by a user and a password of the user from the user;

a recording device that records the identification information and a password;

a verifying device that reads the password from the recording device according to the identification information and verifies the password received by the communication device with the password read; and

a device that allows services to the user when the passwords are the same and prohibits the services to the user when the passwords are different.

10. A service center, comprising:

a communication device that receives identification information of a camera owned by a user and service information, or the identification information, an image and the service information from the user;

a recording device that records the identification information and user information on the user; and

a device that reads the user information from the recording device according to the identification information received by the communication device to specify the user, and provides a service corresponding with the service information to the user.

11. The service center as defined in claim 10, wherein the user information includes at least one of the following: a delivery address, a distribution destination of image or audio data, a financial source, a password, an address, a name, a gender, a birthday and an age.

12. The service center as defined in claim 10, further comprising:

a payment information recording device that records the identification information and a method of payment;

a payment method reading device that reads the method of payment from the payment information recording device according to the identification information received; and

a charge receiving device that receives a charge for a service in accordance with the method of payment read by the payment method reading device.

13. The service center as defined in claim 10, wherein the service includes at least one of the following: an image or audio distributing service, an image printing service, a service for publicly opening an image on a network, and a service for saving an image in a server.

14. The service center as defined in claim 13, wherein the user information includes at least one of the following: a delivery address, a distribution destination of image or audio data, a financial source, a password, an address, a name, a gender, a birthday and an age.

15. The service center as defined in claim 13, further comprising:

a payment information recording device that records the identification information and a method of payment;

a payment method reading device that reads the method of payment from the payment information recording device according to the identification information received; and

a charge receiving device that receives a charge for a service in accordance with the method of payment read by the payment method reading device.

16. A service center which offers an after-sales service on a camera owned by a user in response to a request from the user, the service center comprising:

a communication device that receives identification information of the camera from the user;

a recording device that records the identification information and after-sales service information; and

a reading device that reads the after-sales service information from the recording device according to the identification information;

wherein the communication device transmits after-sales service data to the user.

17. The service center as defined in claim 16, wherein the after-sales service information

is updating information of a program for the camera.

18. A service center which offers an after-sales service on a camera owned by a user in response to a request from the user, the service center comprising:

a communication device that receives identification information of the camera and at least one of status information of the camera and history data related to utilization of the camera from the user;

a recording device that records the identification information, one of the status information and the history information, and after-sales service information of the camera; and

a reading device that reads the after-sales service information from the recording device according to the identification information and the one of the status information and the history information,

wherein the communication device transmits the after-sales service information to the user.

19. The service center as defined in claim 18, wherein the after-sales service information is updating information of a program for the camera.

20. A service method, comprising the following steps of:

receiving images from a camera connected with a communication apparatus and identification information of the camera from the camera;

displaying the images and a service menu showing services to be offered by a service center on a displaying device of the communication apparatus;

selecting a service from the service menu, or selecting the service and an image among the images; and

transmitting the identification information and information indicating the service selected, or the identification information, the information indicating the service and the images through a network.

21. The service method as defined in claim 20, wherein:

the communication apparatus connects to the service center and transmits the identification information and the image to the service center;

the server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and user information on the user; and

the server reads the user information from the recording device on reception of the identification information from the service center and transmits the user information to the service center.

22. The service method as defined in claim 20, wherein:

the communication apparatus transmits the identification information, the image and information the service to the server through the network;

the server has a recording device that records the identification information and the user information, and reads the user information from the recording device according to the identification information; and

the server connects to the service center and transmits the user information and the image to the service center.

23. The service method as defined in claim 20, wherein:

the server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and a password of the user; and

the server reads the password from the recording device according to the identification information on reception of the identification information and a password from the user, and verifies the password received from the user with the password read from the recording device, then allows the service when the passwords are the same and prohibits the service when the passwords are different.

24. The service method as defined in claim 20, wherein:

a server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and the service menu; and

the server selects the service menu from the recording device on reception of the identification information from the user and transmits the service menu to the user.

25. The service method as defined in claim 24, wherein:

the communication apparatus connects to the service center and transmits the identification information and the image to the service center;

the server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and user information on the user; and

the server reads the user information from the recording device on reception of the identification information from the service center and transmits the user information to the service center.

26. The service method as defined in claim 24, wherein:

the communication apparatus transmits the identification information, the image and information the service to the server through the network;

the server has a recording device that records the identification information and the user information, and reads the user information from the recording device according to the identification information; and

the server connects to the service center and transmits the user information and the image to the service center.

27. The service method as defined in claim 24, wherein:

the server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and a password of the user; and

the server reads the password from the recording device according to the identification information on reception of the identification information and a password from the user, and verifies the password received from the user with the password read from the recording device, then allows the service when the passwords are the same and prohibits the service when the passwords are different.

28. The service method as defined in claim 20, wherein:

a server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and utility information

related to services used by the user; and

the server reads the utility information from the recording device on reception of the identification information from the user, determines an order of the services in the service menu in accordance with the utility information, and transmits the service menu in the order to the user.

29. The service method as defined in claim 28, wherein:

the communication apparatus connects to the service center and transmits the identification information and the image to the service center;

the server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and user information on the user; and

the server reads the user information from the recording device on reception of the identification information from the service center and transmits the user information to the service center.

30. The service method as defined in claim 28, wherein:

the communication apparatus transmits the identification information, the image and information the service to the server through the network;

the server has a recording device that records the identification information and the user information, and reads the user information from the recording device according to the identification information; and

the server connects to the service center and transmits the user information and the image to the service center.

31. The service method as defined in claim 28, wherein:

the server which communicates with the communication apparatus through the network has a recording device that records the identification information and a password of the user; and

the server reads the password from the recording device according to the identification information on reception of the identification information and a password from the user, and verifies the password received from the user with the password read from the

recording device, then allows the service when the passwords are the same and prohibits the service when the passwords are different.

32. A service method in which a recording device records identification information of a camera owned by a user and user information on the user, and at least one of the following is offered: an image or audio distributing service, an image printing service, a service for publicly opening an image on a network, and a service for saving an image in a server, said service method comprising the steps of:

receiving the identification information and service information indicating a service, or receiving the identification information, an image and the service information from the user; and

reading the user information from the recording device according to the identification information to specify the user, and providing the service to the user.

33. The service method as defined in claim 32, in which a recording device records the identification information and a method of payment, wherein said service method further comprising the steps of:

reading a method of payment from the recording device in accordance with the identification information; and

receiving a charge for the service from the user in accordance with the method of payment.

34. A service method in which a recording device records identification information of a camera owned by a user and after-sales service information indicating an after-sales service of the camera, and the after-sales service is provided to the user, said service method comprising the steps of:

receiving the identification information from the user;

reading the after-sales service information from the recording device in accordance with the identification information; and

transmitting the after-sales service information to the user.

35. The service method as defined in claim 34, in which a recording device records the

identification information and a method of payment, wherein said service method further comprising the steps of:

reading a method of payment from the recording device in accordance with the identification information; and

receiving a charge for the service from the user in accordance with the method of payment.

36. A service method in which a recording device records identification information of a camera owned by a user, at least one of status information of the camera and history information related to utilization of the camera, and after-sales service information indicating an after-sales service of the camera, and the after-sales service is provided to the user, said service method comprising the steps of:

receiving the identification information and at least one of the status information and the history information from the user;

reading the after-sales service information from the recording device in accordance with the identification information and at least one of the status information and the history information; and

transmitting the after-sales service information to the user.

37. The service method as defined in claim 36, in which a recording device records the identification information and a method of payment, wherein said service method further comprising the steps of:

reading a method of payment from the recording device in accordance with the identification information; and

receiving a charge for the service from the user in accordance with the method of payment.